

**DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD (DAB) I
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, December 13, 2004

7:00 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th, Wichita, Kansas 67214

Members Present

Vice Mayor Carl Brewer
Gerald Domitrovic
Treatha Brown-Foster
Lori Lawrence
Debra K. Miller
Debby Moore
Sharon Myers*
Steve Roberts
James Thompson
Lois Tully-Gerber
LaVonta Williams

Members Absent

Guests

Dorothy Nave, 1802 Looman
Carl Ligon, 1736 NE Parkway
Beverly Domitrovic, Schweiter NA
Hayley, Domitrovic, Schweiter NA
Brett Letwkovski, 245 N. Waco
B. J. Mosley, 2435 Glen Oaks Dr.

***Alternates**

City of Wichita Staff Present

Virdena Gilkey, Neighborhood Assistant
Paul Gunzelman, Public Works
Jim Armour, Public Works
Ofc. Channara Seang, WPD

Order of Business

Call to Order

Vice Mayor Brewer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Approval of Minutes

Brewer (Thompson) made a motion to approve the November 1, 2004 minutes as submitted.
Motion carried (9-0).

Approval of Agenda

Brewer requested to be added to the Public Agenda. **Brewer (Roberts)** made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried (9-0).

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled items

Rosemary Njoroge, thanked the board for their kind support during the loss of her loved one, her 24 year old daughter, who was killed due to domestic violence. Her daughter had a one-year-old baby, who is now motherless.

Ms. Njoroge explained that there are excellent services from agencies (YWCA, Harbor House, etc.) that support domestic violence programs, but there are still gaps in assistance for victims. She then told the story of how her daughter reported her abuser, took copies

of his picture to the WPD, two weeks prior to her death her daughter was in ER and released, she went back to court and filed a Protection from Abuse Order, gave her mother Power of Attorney in case she was killed and went to the police the Friday that she died. Yet with all of the steps she took, she was still murdered.

Ms. Njoroge then presented to the board a One Stop Domestic Violence Center proposal to the board and cited other cities, such as San Francisco and Baltimore, Maryland that has One Stop DV Centers. These centers house medical personnel, WPD, SRS, etc. all under one roof. She asked for assistance in either sending representatives to these areas or to invite them to Wichita, via a conference, to assist Wichita in setting up a similar facility.

(Ms. Njoroge's response in italics)

Brewer stated that he is passionate about domestic violence. He commented that he held a meeting with groups that are interested in assisting Ms. Njoroge with the One Stop Domestic Violence Center. Brewer added that one domestic violence case is too many. Vice Mayor Brewer reported that WPD is addressing this issue with a program called Salons of Hope, where salon owners and their employees are trained to identify women who are the victims of domestic violence.

The board received and filed.

2. Off-agenda items

Brewer invited the board to the annual Holiday Luncheon at Atwater Neighborhood City Hall, Friday, December 17th, 11:30 a.m. He thanked the board for all their hard work and personal sacrifices to make District 1 a wonderful community to reside.

The board received and filed.

Staff Reports

3. Police Report

Officer Seang provided the following updates: 1) they are addressing auto larceny at 29th to 3400 Webb Road; 2) addressing weekend auto racing along 29th to 3400 Webb Road; 3) conducted a prostitution sting between Piatt to Grove; 4) 17 arrests on Central to Broadway; 5) Community Police are out visiting neighborhood associations and senior centers giving safety tips; and 6) working with the Wichita Children's Home – started program for pre-teen gifts for the holidays. Many times the older children do not receive gifts.

(Officer Seang's response in italics)

Brown Foster asked if he could report on the loud noise issue. She stated that it is getting worse at I-35 and 21st Street and that it usually occurs around 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. in the morning. *I passed that on to Officer Wallace, as that is his area. I will say that we have to catch them the minute they are in violation. The first time, we issue a warning. Beyond that, the violator is issued a ticket. Based on the time you reported, the third shift officers*

should be contacted on this. Meyers reported that she did research on what is in the cars that make the loud noise. Drivers install an 800 amp. She stated that her area also has that same problem on Mainsgate and Bramblewood. **Brown Foster** asked about the pre-teen gifts for the children's home and when are they given out? *The gifts are given out December 23rd. If you wish to contribute, leave the gifts at the Wichita Children's Home.* **Roberts** asked what ages are the gifts for? *12 to 16 years old.* **Myers** asked if the gifts should be wrapped? *They have wrappers to wrap the gifts once they are delivered.*

The board received and filed.

Vice Mayor Brewer left at 7:38 p.m. to speak at a neighborhood association.

4. Dewey Street Improvement, from Main to Broadway

Jim Armour, Public Works introduced **Paul Gunzelman**, as the City's new Traffic Engineer. Mr. Armour explained that the 2004-2013 Capital Improvement Program adopted by the City Council includes a project to improve Dewey, from Main to Broadway and is scheduled for construction in 2005.

Brett Letkowski, Transystems Corp., handed out a copy of the proposed design and presented two options: use existing brick or new brick. New brick is approximately \$144,020.00. Recycled brick is extremely expensive at approximately \$200 per square yard, which would be \$540,000.00 for half a block.

He further explained that the existing brick sidewalks would be maintained, the sidewalks would be ADA approved, and there would be new concrete driveways installed. In addition, brick crosswalks could be used to improve the intersections. The budget is \$370,000 (\$330,000 for construction and \$40,000 for design). The City is waiting on construction after the Waterwalk and arena designs have been completed.

(Jim Armour and Brett Letkowski's response in italics)

Domitrovic asked for a budget explanation, if the City would be able to use old brick, durability of new brick, and if the cost difference is due to aesthetics? *Mr. Armour responded that the project is budgeted for \$370,000. Yes, the City would be able to use the old brick. New brick has a 20-year life plan, which would be the same for any of the brick. There would be very little City maintenance on new brick. Concrete last 20 to 30 years.* **Myers** asked what type of material would be used? *The main street would be asphalt with brick intersections. On Douglas would be asphalt roadway.* **Tully-Gerber** asked if traffic would increase with the Waterwalk, how can a recommendation be made when downtown plans has not been developed, and what is staff's recommendation? *Mr. Armour responded that the City would hold off until it has been decided where the arena will be built. He added that staff recommended the use of asphalt with brick crossings. Mr. Letkowski responded that they would come back to present the pavement design.*

Miller (Brown Foster) made a motion to recommend approval of the project with the asphalt surface. Motion carried 9-0.

Unfinished Business

No items submitted

New Business

No items submitted

Board Agenda

5. Updates, Issues, and Reports

- **Brown Foster** announced that the McAdams Neighborhood Association would host it their year-end holiday dinner, Saturday, December 18, 2004, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Mecca Club, 25th and Hillside.
- **Tully-Gerber** inquired about the Piatt Memorial Park and asked if she had missed the final review? **Brown Foster** responded that Oletha Foust Goudeau presented the recommendation to make Piatt Park a memorial park. She added that nothing definite has been done. **Williams** remarked that maybe we should invite her to present at our next DAB meeting.
- **Thompson** reported that the next District 1 Coalition Breakfast would be held January 8, 2005. Also the next DAB 1 Meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2005.
- **Carl Ligon, 1736 NE Parkway**, asked if a coalition is being formed by Vice Mayor Brewer to address abandoned houses? **Brown Foster** responded that it is her understanding that Sunflower Coalition wants this issue under their umbrella. However, a lot of the neighborhood associations rejected this idea, so they will not be the primary organization responsible. She added that within the NE Millair area, Mr. Arbertha, Power CDC, is doing a great job. Crime was the highest and is not the lowest. Power CDC will be featured on the national news for their rehab efforts. **Barbara Jones Mosley** commented that she was a former low income representative and traveled with ACORN (Association for Community Organizations for Reform Now), an organization out of Chicago, Illinois. They addressed economic infrastructure, the broken window syndrome, economic development within the community, etc. She also traveled to the Kansas City area, where they were able to get a moratorium on abandoned houses through the utilization of the Section 8 Housing Program. Ms. Mosley stated that she shared the Chicago program with Vice Mayor Brewer.

The board received and filed.

With no further business, **Roberts (Tully-Gerber)** made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virdena Gilkey
Neighborhood Assistant